

GREAT DAY COMING IN RAPPAHANNOCK

Diamond-Shaped County Rich Beyond Count—Its Folks Don't Know It.

NOT AN INCH OF RAILWAY LINE

People Prosperous and Happy. Have Best of Country Roads. Getting to Market.

The little diamond-shaped county of Rappahannock, surrounded by the counties of Warren, Fauquier, Culpeper, Madison and Page, has not a single mile of railroad in it, and yet it is one of the richest counties in the State of Virginia. This statement perhaps requires explanation, and this is exactly what this article is being written for.

Rappahannock is a small county compared with a majority of the subdivisions in the State, having an area of only 24 square miles. There are said to be nearly 900 farms in the county, none of them being very large, as we think of the big acre plantations in some other parts of Virginia and the South. The people are a long way from market, the nearest railway station to the county seat, a small village in the center called by the high-sounding name of Passapatan, being Rhinball, eighteen miles away, on the Shenandoah Valley branch of the Norfolk and Western, and the more convenient and easier to reach being Culpeper, twenty-four miles away, on the Southern Railway. For this reason, the lack of transportation, the people have never impoverished their lands by overcropping them. Perhaps no county in the State has a greater variety of timber, oak, chestnut, pine, hickory, poplar and walnut cover vast areas, especially in that part of the county where the line of the Blue Ridge Mountain is visible. Owing also to the lack of transportation facilities, these vast forests have been hardly touched, for very little timber is shipped from the county and but limited quantities are manufactured by the half a dozen or more local sawmills and planing mills.

UNDEVELOPED WEALTH AND VALUABLE RESOURCES

Thus it is seen that because of the lack of railway facilities the county of Rappahannock is rich in timber, in fertile, producing lands, and other resources. It is as rich as it was 100 or 200 years ago. Iron, kaolin and other minerals have been found in the county and are known to exist in very large quantities beneath the surface. It is one has ever undertaken to develop these sources of wealth, because they are really not sources of wealth unless there can be brought about some way to get them to market as quickly and as cheaply as the same kind of wealth can be gotten there from other parts of the State.

The State will now very naturally ask that the people of Rappahannock live on. Well, they grow pretty much everything they need to eat and a great deal more. The lands are undeveloped and the people are rich. The soil is very fertile and produces abundantly. The very finest kind of corn crops, wheat, oats, clover, soy beans, and other crops are raised. The people are rich in fruit, and the surplus finds its way to market after a while, as shall hereafter appear.

There are large areas of grazing lands in the county and fat cattle, sheep and hogs are raised in very large numbers and converted into money every year. Some horses and mules are also raised for the markets. Cattle, sheep and hogs may be said to be the real money crops of the people of Rappahannock County. These are drawn in by rail to the railroads, and then through adjoining counties, so far away, and shipped to the markets of Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, and the surplus of grain, fruit and other crops are hauled to the same roads by wagon and shipped. This is the old-fashioned way, and I am told that the people get along well on all these and considerable extra money so easily and with so little worry, they really are not particularly anxious for railroads. From information that has come to me, I dare say the average wealth of the farmers of Rappahannock, and all of her citizens are farmers, is as great as those of any other county in Virginia.

FIRST-CLASS PIKES AND ROADS

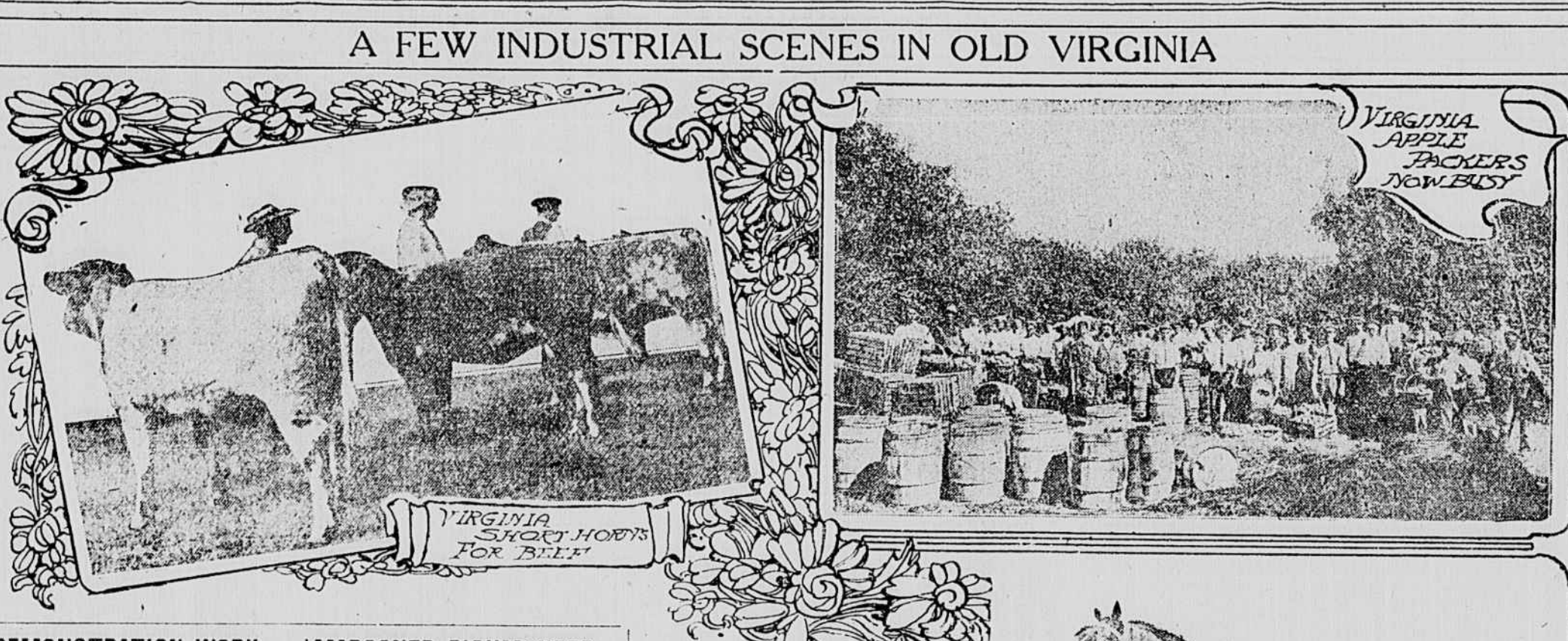
After all, the marketing of the surplus products of the county, the sheep and hogs is not such a tremendous undertaking as one might suppose, after hastily reading the record made by the people of the county. The people of Rappahannock have given more attention for fifty years and more past to the making and maintaining of good roads, than any other county in the State. The turnpike is one of the best, if not the very best, country road in the State, and the pike is intersected with first-class public roads here, there and everywhere. This pike and these intersecting roads have not only been good, but they are kept good. A man who has traveled the country roads pretty much all over the State, and has recently been through Rappahannock, is my authority for the statement, that no county in the State, in fact, no county in the South, has improved roads in better condition or watches after them as closely as the county of Rappahannock. Without an exception, the people of the county are compelled to keep these roads in good shape.

RAPPAHANNOCK'S GREAT DAY

COMING IN THE NEAR FUTURE

It is, therefore, not such a heavy matter to get the surplus products of the rich lands to market, and it is a very easy matter to drive the live stock to the distant railway lines to take them over, but when it comes to other kinds of development, a railway is a necessity. The development of the vast timber interest and the digging down in the earth for the development of minerals must of necessity be postponed until the rails are laid and the voice of the iron horse is heard

(Continued On Sixth Page.)



A FEW INDUSTRIAL SCENES IN OLD VIRGINIA

DEMONSTRATION WORK IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Farmers Taking Interest in Grasses, and Alfalfa Stock-Raising Folks Naturally.

GREAT MANY IDLE ACRES YET

New People Coming in To Fill Up Waste Places—Enthusiastic Agents Are Predicting Many More Great Things.

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA., August 23.—Brunswick County has been for some years in the list of those progressive counties that have secured the services of a farm demonstrator. The present demonstrator, Dan H. Sizer, when seen the other day, expressed himself most enthusiastically about the agricultural conditions in the county. Here are his views:

"Since my arrival in Brunswick last winter I have been most favorably impressed with the spirit of progressiveness shown by the farmers in every section of the county. The calls and letters I have been asking my assistance have been so numerous that it has kept me constantly on the go to comply with the requests.

"I have spent much time in organizing the Boys' Corn Club, and the boys are doing good work. The farmers are rapidly taking up the plan of seedling for permanent pastures, a new idea in Brunswick. They are realizing that good pastures can be obtained here, as well as in the upper counties. Many hays and grasses are being seeded, and also much oats and vetch together, a crop almost unknown in Brunswick up to the present time. Last year there were only about seventy-five or 100 acres of alfalfa in the entire county; this fall there will be about 400 acres seeded.

CATTLE RAISING IS A COMING GREAT INDUSTRY

"Pure-bred cattle and hogs are being bought in the county as never before. I am emphasizing the fact that the raising of these animals is necessary for any permanent system of agriculture. The number of men raising hogs for market is greater than ever before. They are raising the improved picture land, made by an improved system of crop rotation.

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MAROOINED RICHMONDER ARRIVES HOME SAFELY

Talks War and Effects on American Food Producers and Cattle-Raisers.

MEAT AND HORSES IN DEMAND

Conflict Cannot Last Long—When Peace Comes Food Makers Will Flourish—Tobacco and Cotton Growers Have a Cinch.

LOCAL VIEW AND OUTLOOK.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s report to The Times-Dispatch is as follows:

"There has been little if any change in the industrial situation in Virginia and North Carolina during the past week, though indications are that confidence is gradually returning, and the war in Europe has not had such bad effects here as was first feared. The prices of some staples directly affected by the practical cessation of imports have been increased to some small extent, and country merchants are generally expected that when the season's crops are marketed, more capital will be available in the agricultural section, and country merchants will be able to realize on their bills received.

"Local building operations are of fair volume, but it is believed that present activity is largely confined to finishing contracts on hand, and no preparations for future business are of small scope."

IMPROVEMENT CERTIFICATES.

NEW YORK, August 23.—Although the Virginia and Charlotte Air Line was unable to deliver new certificates of stock bearing endorsement of the Virginia and Charlotte Air Line, the dividend of \$1.00 per share, payable on September 1, will be paid as if the certificates had been delivered. The committee of the stockholders has decided to pay the dividend on the basis of the certificates held by the stockholders on September 1. The committee has also decided to pay the dividend on the basis of the certificates held by the stockholders on September 1.

AS TO GOOD TIMES AHEAD.

There have been droughts and much more talk of droughts in Virginia and North Carolina this year, but after all of the talk the crops are all right. The corn crop is immense, the second and third cuttings in the hay fields have proved better than were expected, the potato crop in all rights, and the tobacco crop is as large as perhaps it ought to be, and all things considered, the farmers of Virginia are in pretty good shape and ready to take advantage of the better prices for numerous articles. The day's Industrial Section are predicting for all manner of American products that are to be had because of the short supply of goods in Europe due to the war. Some recently made pictures, on the front page of this section give an idea of good times in Old Virginia. My suggestion to the crop growers and the industrial workers and manufacturers is that they stop talking war, or at least stop getting excited about a fight that is so many miles away and keep on saving crops and getting manufactured truck ready to supply the abnormal demand that the rumper over in Europe is surely going to create—in fact, has already created.

A FARMER'S VACATION.

This wise suggestion is picked up from an exchange and given here for what it's worth.

While the wealthy townsmen are making himself comfortable at the seashore, the farmer is busy at the plow.

THE SOUTH AND CUBA.

Now Is Accepted Time for Virginia and Dixie to Invade Antilles.

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LOOKING FOR THE WOODS.

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MANUFACTURERS ARE OPTIMISTIC

See a Splendid Opportunity for the Members of Nation-Wide Organization.

VIRGINIA FACTORIES IN IT

Makers of Goods in United States Can Supply Nearly All of Missing Links by Hustling.

The National Association of Manufacturers which has among its members a large number of Virginia manufacturing establishments with plants in Richmond, Danville, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Norfolk, Staunton and other cities is in no way pessimistic as regards the effects of the European war on the business of the manufacturers of this country. On the contrary, it is just the other way, as will be seen by a bulletin the association has just issued.

Referring especially to the European war, the bulletin says: "The United States, its manufacturers, financial institutions and people were never in better position to withstand adverse conditions and never before so well prepared to overcome obstacles and take advantage of commercial opportunities. In the first place, the almost complete stoppage of the industrial machinery of the chief manufacturing countries of the world outside of the United States places a great duty on this country which its humanity alone would compel it to meet. But, fortunately, this duty goes great opportunity for the manufacturers. The manufacturer's duty and opportunity lie in supplying to the nations outside of Europe (and as far as practicable in Europe) those goods from which they are now cut off, and which they must have in order to maintain their own industrial life.

CALLS COMING AND WE HAVE THE GOODS READY

"Fortunately for all concerned, the manufacturers of the United States are now prepared to supply nearly all the classes of manufactured articles the world needs.

"Already the calls are coming to the United States from many lands, and particularly those of South America, for supplies of such things as iron, steel, machinery, etc. The American manufacturer could only hope to secure orders after the expenditure of much time, money and patience in soliciting trade, now the trade is knocking at the door.

"But the manufacturer cannot afford to sit and wait for the trade. He must be prepared to meet it more than half way, if he desires to secure and retain a permanent hold upon the long desired over-sea business. The Far East, Australasia, Africa, as well as Latin America needs his goods, but not all the manufacturers of the United States can supply them or will supply them. All approved channels should be used to inform these far-away consumers that American mills, shops and factories can meet their requirements, and make every effort to supply these requirements.

TIME FOR SWAPPING

"But while the manufacturers of American producers are now or soon will be seeking each other out as never before, the American manufacturer must not deceive himself with respect to the opportunity for selling as well as duty counsel unremitting efforts towards the desired goal of supplying the crying and continuous needs of foreign customers, but while there is need, the manufacturer must also understand the difficulty to be met. The foreign producer is cut off by the war from his own greatest customers, as the warring nations are themselves by the war from the largest sources of supply of many of the neutral nations. In large degree, the extent to which the United States can take care of the neutral nations' exports will be measured by the opportunity for selling to those nations must buy. Most of them are in the position of the American farmer; if they cannot sell their own products, they cannot buy other's goods."

OPTIMISM ALMOST MAD.

Most Glowing Picture That Has Yet Been Put on the Canvas.

The Optimism of the manufacturers is most optimistic proposition that has come down the pike since war broke out in Europe. Listen to its song:

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